

THE MUSCATINE JOURNAL

A LEE NEWSPAPER

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Editorial Page

Inconsistent Senate

Two years ago, when the House of Representatives accepted its new Rayburn office building in Washington, it was described on the U.S. Senate floor as "quite possibly the worst building, costing the most money, in the history of the construction of public buildings anywhere in the world."

And that was a good thumbnail picture of a structure that was estimated at \$60 million and wound up costing \$134.5 million.

It has an \$8 million subway to carry members to the Capitol, and a \$144,000 women's gym after it was decided that the 11 congresswomen couldn't use the \$499,000 swimming pool in the men's gymnasium.

The contractor was Matthew McCloskey, a big Democratic party contributor who figured in some of Bobby Baker's fiscal

shenanigans. The Capitol architect is not licensed as either architect or engineer.

So guess what the Senate, so critical of the Rayburn monstrosity, did three weeks ago?

It approved spending \$1.25 million for land on which to build a new Senate office building. Estimated cost, \$29 million; real cost, who knows?

The Senate now has two office buildings, the (most recent completed in 1968. A third would give senators, staffs and committees three times the space of a decade ago, though only four senators have been added in that time.

William Proxmire, U.S. Senator from Wisconsin, called the project "inconsistent, self-serving... and certainly a bad example" to taxpayers. Unfortunately, it was a minority view.

Government by the Union Bosses.

BY JOHN CHAMBERLAIN

NEW YORK — The union movement in the U.S. has encountered hard sledding in recent years. Its rolls, apart from an upsurge in teamster union membership, have remained more or less static, and it has been unable to force Congress to abandon the particular provision in our basic labor law that allows individual states to enforce a right-to-work code. Frustrated in their desires for expansion, the big-time union leaders have been casting hungry looks at the three million employees of the federal government, and the nine million people on the payrolls of cities, counties, and the fifty states.

President George Meany of the AFL-CIO makes no bones about his endeavors to force some sort of "agency shop" on the employees of the various government administrative units. The "agency shop" wouldn't exactly be compulsory unionism, but it would forcibly extract the equivalent of union dues from every government worker in any bureau that had signed a contract with one of Mr. Meany's organizations. The financial "take" from such an operation would be terrific; if twelve million public employees were brought under agency shop status, it would mean more than \$750 million a year. And if the AFL-CIO's COPE, or some other "political education" group, were to collect a dollar a month from three million federal employees in an election year, it would create a campaign fund of \$36 million. Add a buck a month for the nine million state, county and municipal employees to this fund and the union momentum would be irresistible; only a slavish union labor stooge could ever hope to be elected President of the United States under such a dispensation.

It was President John F. Kennedy who once said, in an executive order that "employees of the Federal government shall have, and shall be protected in the exercise of, the right, freely and without fear of penalty or reprisal, to form, join and assist any employee organization or to refrain from such activity." But the "right to refrain," while it still exists on the Federal level, is on its way out in many of the states. Michigan is a noteworthy offender: a recent survey of contracts in Michigan shows that there are nineteen union shop contracts, nine agency fee contracts, and twenty-seven "maintenance of membership" contracts, covering municipalities and their employees. The legality of such contracts is being contested, but two police department workers, Mrs. Martin Joslin and Mrs. Mary Bohn, who were fired in Grand Rapids a couple of years ago for refusing to pay compulsory dues to a union, have not been able to get back on the payroll.

In Delaware, a compulsory union shop

agreement was recently negotiated between the county of Newcastle and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees. In Waterville, Maine, the police department has signed a contract calling for a union shop — meaning that a neophyte policeman must join the union in order to keep his job. In Carlsbad, New Mexico, any new policeman is forced to join a compulsory union shop within thirty days after his employment. In Pennsylvania, the city of Scranton has signed an agency fee shop agreement with the International Association of Machinists. So it goes throughout the country. No wonder George Meany is licking his chops at the prospect of getting concessions to compulsory unionism in Washington, D. C.

If Mr. Meany gets his way, and the "right to refrain" that was so vigorously asserted by John F. Kennedy is overturned, what would become of the democratic proposition that the government of the U. S. belongs to all of its citizens? With a union shop or an agency fee check-off enforced in Federal and in the various state capitals, it would mean the only those citizens who believe in union compulsion could work for the government. This would automatically exclude a big majority of people from taking part in the active work of ruling themselves. With a super-government passing on the qualifications of government employees, you could hardly call it government of the people, by the people and for the people. It would be government of the people, by the unions, for the union bosses.

LOAF OF BREAD

A British reporter recently conducted his own demonstration of the world's plenty and want.

In four places he stood on a busy street corner offering a three-pound loaf of bread to anyone who would work one hour for it.

In Hamburg, people laughed at him. In New York, the police arrested him. In Nigeria several were ready to work three hours for the bread.

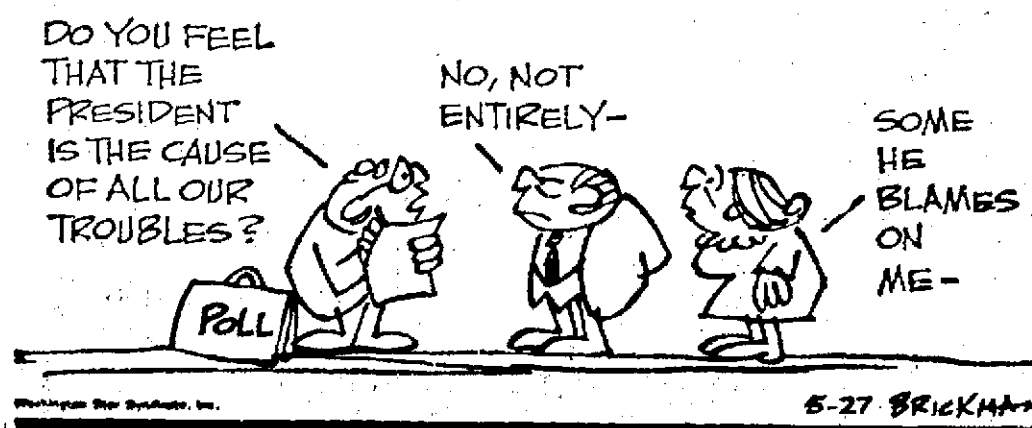
In New Delhi, the reporter found himself surrounded by a thousand men ready to work an entire day for the bread.

—From the Clinton Herald

According to the Tanzanian National Dance Leadership, Beatle music did not originate in Liverpool, England. On the contrary, the leadership definitively reports, it is pure African music that originated with the Wasukuma tribe in northern Tanzania. We knew it all the time. —Richmond News Leader.

the small society

by Brickman



You called?

You Must Help If This Task Is To Get Done

By W. Earl Hall

First to arrive and last to leave! That's a capsule description of the Red Cross when there's a flood, earthquake or tornado.

Minutes after twisters descended on four Iowa communities earlier this month, Red Cross disaster workers were on the job. They still are and they will be for as much as two months.

Within a week, upwards of 100,000 meals had been served to tornado victims and volunteers in the four points hardest hit, Charles City, Osceola, Maynard, and Elma. Feeding facilities had been set up before darkness enveloped the rain-swept wreckage wrought in one hideous minute.

Before dawn vehicles laden with food, clothing, bedding and other items were rolling in. Many volunteers by the hundreds, equipped with bulldozers, chain-saws and trucks, launched their monumental clean-up operations in the early morning.

All of this, of course, has been graphically told by newspapers, TV and radio. The understandable wish of those who read or listen to view the rubble necessitated road-blocks in all directions.

Now, several days after the disaster, the story takes on a new character. Excitement has vanished; a drab scene presents itself. The central task from now on is rehabilitating the vic-

tims and rebuilding the stricken communities.

What could be described as "the road back" starts with re-kindling hope in the unfortunate victims who might well conclude they have been dealt a bad hand by fate.

That's a job for the Red Cross...with YOUR help.

It calls for dedicated workers with an ample experience background and a patience like unto Job's. Handling out food and clothing is simple by comparison.

In a half century of contact with the Red Cross, I have seen it in action at home and in the far places...training camps...airfields...battalions...London...Churchill...Hospital...Paris...Utah Beach, etc.

But the designation, "Mother of Humanity," never has seemed better merited than when I have watched dedicated Red Cross staffers bringing new hope and new life to the victims of Hurricane Audrey in Louisiana or of the two massive Pacific Coast floods in subsequent years.

The overall goal of the Red Cross is to restore tornado victims to the life they knew before catastrophe struck. Sometimes this means repairing or rebuilding a home; sometimes it means help in housing a business or shop; sometimes it means merely replacing tools or materials lost in the storm.

How to reach these objectives is something which has been arrived at by Red Cross specialists who make rehabilitation

their life work. Always their approach is seasoned with heart and compassion.

One thing should be made unmistakably clear. It's that any financial help given by the Red Cross in disaster relief, without exception, is an outright gift. It is NEVER a loan.

Following through after a disaster is a duty imposed upon the Red Cross under its federal charter. But there is no provision in that federal charter for financing it. That is left to Americans sufficiently concerned with their fellow man to dig down into their pockets and give unstintingly.

It's a sobering fact that the Red Cross national disaster relief fund has been drained to the vanishing point by an unprecedented succession of massive disasters. In the present situation, Iowans are being asked to play the role of "brother's keeper."

Thousands have already responded. Some had their gifts in the mail within hours of the tragic devastation in northeastern Iowa. But some have not yet acted. Others will wish to make their help commensurate with the expanding need.

As co-chairman of the Iowa Tornadoes Disaster Relief Fund, I deeply hope I may in this plea catch the eye of at least a few potential donors. The address is: American Red Cross Disaster Hqrs.; P.O. Box 169, Mason City, Iowa; 56402.

To Your Good Health

By Joseph G. Molner, M.D.

Charcoal and Cancer Scare

Dear Dr. Molner: A friend said she read an article saying that charcoal cooking is known to cause cancer. Is there any truth to this? We do a lot of cooking on our grill in the summer and are worried about this. — Mrs. W.J.

There are so many backyard cooks, and this cancer story has been repeated so many times, that a great many people are worried. Letters from readers tell me so.

Trouble is, the writers of such articles evidently haven't read the original scientific reports, or anyway haven't read them carefully. And when the scare stories are repeated by word of mouth, they are liable to become scarier with each telling.

I have read the original articles by the investigators who reported the presence of carcinogens in charcoal-broiled meat. (A carcinogen is any substance that tends to produce cancer.)

The principal carcinogen in this case is a substance known as benzopyrene. This chemical does indeed produce cancer when it is painted on or otherwise applied to laboratory animals. It is a "carcinogen."

In cooking, it comes from fat dripping into the fire. Then the smoke carries the chemical upward to cling to the steak.

Its presence is undisputed. However, the quantity seldom seems to be mentioned in the scare stories. The original researchers reported it, but people didn't read it, or they stopped

before they reached the end of the article.

The amount of benzopyrene which gets on a kilogram (2.2 pounds) of steak in this way is 5.8 micrograms, or about one microgram for an ordinary portion of charcoal-broiled steak.

A microgram is a millionth part of a gram; a gram is 1/30th of an ounce. Hence, to consume an ounce of this chemical, one would have to eat close to 30 million steaks.

The investigators, in summing up their conclusions, wrote in so many words that "the presence of benzopyrene does not indicate a human hazard."

But the people who made a scare story of the report didn't get down to that information.

There are other carcinogens in our environment that don't get the over-generous attention that this one does — air pollution contains many, smoking has some, and remember the cranberry scare?

I myself do not intend to give up charcoal broiling. I don't, however, cook on such a large, hot fire that dripping fat turns it into a bonfire. In fact, certain manufacturers of cooking equipment advocate a small fire, and keeping the meat at a fair distance from it.

A few coals, really, are enough. Most folks use too many coals, char the meat, and to my way of thinking ruin a fine steak.

I hope still further information may turn up on this topic,

but for the meantime I hope readers will enjoy themselves at the charcoal grills just as I intend to do.

Dear Dr. Molner: As a child he was allowed to run around in wet grass. Now he is grown up and suffers with hay fever every year. Could that be the reason? — Mrs. E.T.

The wet grass had nothing to do with it. They have fever is the result of his being highly sensitive to the pollen from ragweed and similar plants that go to seed in the fall.

Note to Mrs. F.R.: The correct spelling is psoriasis (soe-rye-a-siss), a skin ailment involving redness, scaling, and often some itching. It isn't "catching." Skin specialists don't have much difficulty in controlling the itching, but the various "cures" are unpredictable. Sometimes one works, sometimes another, sometimes nothing seems to work.

Are you bothered with ringing in the ears? If so, write to Dr. Molner in care of this newspaper for the booklet, "Ear Noises — Their Causes and Cures," enclosing with your request 25 cents in coin and a long, self-addressed, stamped envelope.

Dr. Molner welcomes all reader mail, but regrets that due to the tremendous volume received daily, he is unable to answer individual letters. Readers' questions are incorporated in his column whenever possible.

A Columnist's Mailbag

By Hal Boyle



NEW YORK (AP) Things a columnist might never know if he didn't open his mail:

Obesity, once a prestige symbol, has become so hateful to Americans that nearly seven million a year now seek medical help in losing weight. One out of every four persons has a girth control problem.

Do you feel some days that you're bearing the weight of the world on your shoulders? It might help to put your worries in perspective to recall that you are only one of three billion or so people on an obscure planet circling a sun which is only one of 200 billion stars in a single galaxy—and the universe holds millions upon millions of galaxies. You and all your problems are far less noticeable in that universe than one microbe is in a whale.

Tip to thoughtful drivers: Have you taken off your snow tires yet? If left on a car during summer months, the heat built up in them by high speed driving can cause disastrous blow-outs.

Geographical tidbit: The Alamo, the fort at San Antonio, Tex., famed for its last-ditch stand, was so named because of a cottonwood tree—in Spanish, el alamo—that at one time stood there.

Quotable notes: "I would like to have engraved inside every wedding band, 'Be kind to one another.' This is the Golden Rule of marriage, and the secret of making love last through the years."—Randolph Ray, pastor of "The Little Church Around the Corner."

Medicine from the sea: Do claims contain a substance that will help cure cancer? Researchers are studying the possibilities. They estimate that the oceans contain thousands of marine organisms which may yield drugs useful to man, but only about one per cent have as yet been tested in the laboratory.

Royal hobby: Emperor Hirohito of Japan spends his time away from the throne in biological studies. He has written nine books. The latest is a study of coral life in his islands.

Violence long ago: Police reports still commonly designate an unknown weapon used to commit a crime as "a blunt instrument." But man didn't invent murderous blunt instruments. Recent excavations in Africa have unearthed crude stone hammers made 12 million years ago by a prehuman ancestor of man—scientists call him Kenyapithecus Wickeri. Mr.

Wickeri used his hammer to bash in the skulls of antelopes—and perhaps those of his neighbors.

Worth remembering: "A fool and his money are soon invited places."

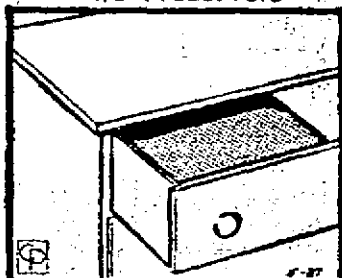
Why do women traditionally wear wedding rings on the third finger of their left hand? According to one theory, the ancient Egyptians and Romans believed that the "vein of love"—vena amoris—flows directly from that vein to the heart, the seat of tender passion.

Jogging is becoming increasingly popular among health seekers, but many deep thinkers and poets of the past have preferred walking. William Wordsworth, who lived to be 80, is said by fellow writer Thomas De Quincey to have walked 180,000 miles in a lifetime "of unclouded happiness." Other noted walking authors: Samuel Johnson, William Hazlitt and Henry David Thoreau.

Folklore: Putting a jar of water with a knife in it behind your door will keep the devil away. The best day to sow turnips is July 25, regardless of whether it rains or shines. If the bubbles on a cup of coffee float toward you, money will come your way—and vice versa. It's bad luck to enter a house with your left foot first.

It was Gen. William T. Sherman who observed, "If forced to choose between the penitentiary and the White House for four years, I would say the penitentiary, thank you."

Wife Preservers



Keep stretch marks in a drawer. They'll "grow" on inch or more suspended from a hanger, but laundry restores the shape.

'Today in History'

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Monday, May 27, the 148th day of 1968. There are 218 days left in the year.

Today's highlight in history:

On this date in 1941, the British navy sank the German battleship Bismarck, with a loss of 2,300 lives. The Bismarck had been pursued more than 1,700 miles after sinking the HMS Hood three days earlier.

On this date: In 1860, a force under the Italian patriot, Giuseppe Garibaldi, invaded Sicily and captured Palermo.

In 1905, a Russian fleet of 32 vessels was wiped out by the Japanese.

In 1936, the British liner Queen Mary began its maiden transatlantic voyage.

In 1937, the Golden Gate

Bridge was opened at San Francisco.

In 1945, more than 100 crewmen were killed in an explosion aboard the U.S. aircraft carrier Bennington off the coast of Rhode Island.

In 1964, Indian Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru died in New Delhi.

Ten years ago—The U.N. Security Council postponed debate on a conflict between Lebanon and the United Arab Republic to permit the Arab League to consider the issues.

Five years ago—The former Mau Mau leader, Jomo Kenyatta, became Kenya's first prime minister.

One year ago—The U.S. aircraft carrier John F. Kennedy was christened by the late president's daughter, Caroline.

Our Yesterdays

100 Years Ago
The JOURNAL office is just in receipt of a lot of new and beautiful card type and card links, and is prepared to execute, in an unsurpassed manner visiting, invitations, and business cards.

75 Years Ago
The Columbian club will meet tonight.

Did you see Stein's elegant line of rockers?

H.C. Ryan was a morning passenger for Davenport to spend Sunday.

50 Years Ago
It is estimated that 285 young men who have attained their majority since last June will be registered on June 5, the next registration date.

25 Years Ago
The mercury was up to 68 off-

cially at noon today with the low in the night recorded at 42 degrees.

Columbus Junction — Mr. and Mrs. Alex Randolph of Columbus City, who have resided here the past 44 years, will celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary Saturday, May 29, at their home.

A.W. Carver and Miss Catherine Carver are attending a two day accounting conference at the University of Minnesota at Minneapolis. The conference will discuss war contracts and the program of tax laws.

10 Years Ago
Vic Wilson of Muscatine is one of five high school seniors who are winners of Nile Kinnick Memorial Scholarships at the State University of Iowa for the 1958 and 59 school year.

The Daily Prayer

Ye are the light of the world. A city this is set on an hill, cannot be hid. (Matthew 5:14)

PRAYER: Dear Lord, thank You for the light of Christ. Help it shine through us that others may see Christ's way in our way. In the name of Him who is the way, Amen.